

Bishop Paul Swain celebrates Mass Jan. 22 at O'Gorman on the 41st anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision. The O'Gorman student body gathered to pray for the unborn and the sanctity of life. KNIGHT SCROLL

Praying For Life

SFCS builds program to bolster peer relations

Tommy Entwistle
Ben Rogers

Students may have noticed an increased awareness to peer relations within the walls of O'Gorman.

Since 2010 SFCS has been working on a curriculum in the elementary schools and since then has gradually brought it up to the high school level.

"We don't want this to just turn into an anti-bullying campaign. We want to improve interpersonal skills and relationships along with communication between students," said assistant principal Joan Mahoney.

Along with posters, signs, and more teacher awareness comes the new online portal where students can voice their concerns on the SFCS website.

"The online portal has really helped," said Mahoney, "It hasn't turned into a place where students tattle-tale, but rather a place that has helped our teachers recognize issues within our school and how they can fix them."

Here at O'Gorman there is a Peer Relations committee that includes teachers from all departments along with Mrs. Mahoney and Mr. Groos. Working alongside them are two students who are voicing the concern and opinions of the student body.

"I think one of the biggest problems we have is students trying to outdo each other, and putting too much stress on themselves," said junior peer support group leader Kylie Lamberty. "We are seeing more and more cases of stress, depression and anxiety."

Right now the teachers are going through a professional development that will further more help them recognize issues of peer relations within O'Gorman. The next step is to do the same for the students.

"We want to let the students know that we are listening and we are talking about how to progress, it's hard to measure improvements because it is an ongoing process, but we are working," said Mahoney.

"The biggest thing we want to get across is the fact that we care and we want to help," said Mahoney.

Junior takes national stage

Kayler Nelson
Editor-in-Chief

On March 23, 2014 one of O'Gorman's own will be headed to Chicago to compete in the Music Teachers National Association Senior Voice Competition.

Junior Alyse Brown won at both the state and regional level in order to advance to the national tournament.

At the tournament, Brown will be competing for the title against seven other students, one representing each remaining region of the United States.

"I will be singing four songs varying from an opera aria to German lieder," said Brown. "My four songs that I will perform are 'Deh vieni, non tardar' by Mozart, 'Chanson Da'mour' by Faure, 'I Love All Graceful Things' by Thiman, and 'Vergebliches Standchen' by Brahms."

In addition to oral interp, Brown has participated in many different choral events and has made various honor choirs including ones at the state, regional, and national level.

"She's sung solos for not only

choir, but also show choir, and has received top honors in competition," said Mrs. Cathy Britton, O'Gorman choral director.

Brown intends on studying music in the future and plans to be an opera singer. "She knows what she wants to do," said Britton. "I think she's known for a while."

A rigorous practice schedule has been adopted by the singer. "I'm very focused and usually have two voice lessons a week that last about an hour or two," said Brown. "I also practice every day for at least an hour on my own."

Focus is only one trait that contributes to Brown's success.

"You need to be a student that's willing to work really hard. The passion needs to be there," said Britton. "She loves it, and that's the reason she's so good."

Outside the walls of O'Gorman, Brown volunteers and performs at nursing homes, sings in the St. Mary's Youth Choir, and plays the piano. "I love playing the piano," said Brown. "It relaxes me and is a



Alyse Brown

great stress reliever."

The multi-faceted junior also faces the challenge of balancing a tight schedule.

"I'm a perfectionist when it comes to music and I always make it a priority when I organize my schedule," said Brown. "As for my school work, I stay up late and don't go to bed until I finish it. However, I still find time to have fun with my friends in between it all."

As choral director, Britton has had the opportunity to watch Brown as her talent has developed over the last three years.

"It's been such a joy, a thrill, for me to watch where this girl started and then to watch her as she's grown in talent," said Britton. "It has been such fun to watch this passion."

Brown's love for music and passion for the art are the stepping stones towards her future. "I want to be an opera singer when I am older so my love of music motivates me," said Brown.

Brown credits O'Gorman and her dedicated fans to her success.

"Through the music department, the teachers, and all the opportunities I have received, O'Gorman has well prepared me for my future in music," said Brown.

"My parents, friends, and teachers are my pillars of support. My voice teacher is especially an important strength to me as he has been with me the whole way."

Brown is looking forward to her future in music. "We're all extremely proud of her," said Britton. "We wish her all the best for all that is in store for her."

Community unites as O’Gorman wins big in State Farm contest

Samantha Lenz
Opinion Editor

Last November the Celebrate My Drive swept O’Gorman High School into winning a \$25,000 grant out of the 3,544 schools registered. The State Farm produced program looked to encourage teens to make positive choices on the road.

“I think our placement as a school really shows how dedicated our entire student body was to winning the money from State Farm,” said junior student council member Lauren Weber.

During the contest six million plus pledges of “two eyes on the road, two hands on the wheel – we’ll save lives” were made.

“As a school we were all impacted in some way by learning more in depth what the consequences of unsafe driving are,” said Weber. “We all actually took that message to heart and decided to act on it by participating to the fullest in the celebrate my drive opportunity.”

Though the grand prize winners from Tennessee and Louisiana will receive a \$100,000

check and Kelly Clarkson concert, O’Gorman looks to focus their winnings in a different way.

In the contest description, 10 percent of the grant must go towards the Driver’s Education Program. With this the driver’s education teachers Mr. Doug Basche and Mr. Gary Siska look to spend the winnings on instructional methods for the summer class.

“We are looking to buy instructional DVDs, cones, and possibly some new textbooks,” said Siska.

Although some of the funds will be used to support the Driver’s Education Program a large question still remains – what will happen to the rest?

After receiving input from the student council and department chairs, the school decided to purchase new computers for the library.

“The computers in the library are currently very slow. The library is a central area for students go to work,” said Groos.

In years to come, O’Gorman looks to continue with the Celebrate My Drive contest.

Students balance school, gain work experience

Cheyenne Chontos
Jef Thormodsgard

This spring, many students find themselves thinking about work outside of school. Some must balance academics or activities with work, and others have started looking for that perfect summer job.

For years employers have connected with O’Gorman in search of part-time employees and interns. Many students find work from O’Gorman alumni or parents with children in the Sioux Falls Catholic Schools.

“They know the students at O’Gorman are hard-working and will do a good job,” said O’Gorman guidance counselor Donna Carlson.

“We get several places that call us as a resource to fill jobs.”

The jobs offered provide many benefits for high school students, including the chance to earn and manage their own money. The majority of the students surveyed said the money they earn either goes to spending money on things like clothes and gas or to their college savings.

“I think having spending money is important for kids,” said Carlson. “It gives them another chance to learn responsibility.

We have a lot of students who put away money for school and that’s great.”

Many students also choose their part-time work to help gain some experience in the work force. These experiences have opened different career fields that students might not have previously considered.

“A student’s first job is to be a student.”

- Donna Carlson

“Personally, I have chosen jobs for experience and exposing myself to different careers.” said senior Matt Czmowski, who works as a bike technician at Two Wheeler Dealer. “Working as a technician has helped me develop an interest in mechanical engineering, helping me trouble shoot problems and faults within designs.”

O’Gorman also offers students to take internship work during their day for school credit. The ShadowEd program also allows students to get a taste of the different fields they can go into

after they are done with school.

These programs allow certain students to explore careers and also get a jump start into the areas they want to go into.

However, the debate arises of whether it’s a good idea to have high school students working during the school year as it might distract them from their studies and add unnecessary pressure to an already stressful time.

“Most employers are kind enough to understand that I am in school. I love my job and they see potential in me at work.” said Czmowski.

“A student’s first job is to be a student,” said Carlson. “A job shouldn’t take the place of school. Whether or not they should get a job during the school year depends on the kid, the number of hours they work, and their course load.”

“It’s important to find a balance between having a job and staying on top of school work.” said freshman Will Beringer. “It also helps to not overwork yourself in the school year and plan accordingly.”

The guidance office plans on continuing to post available jobs outside of their office for students who are interested.

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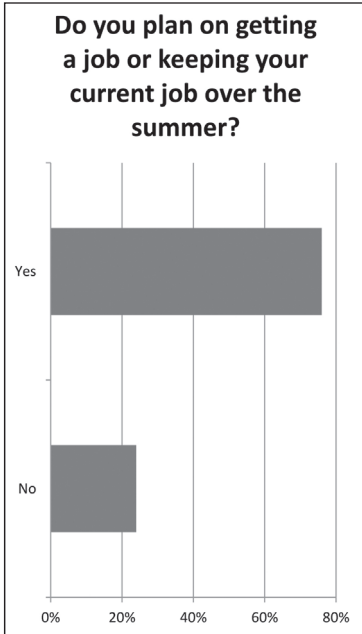
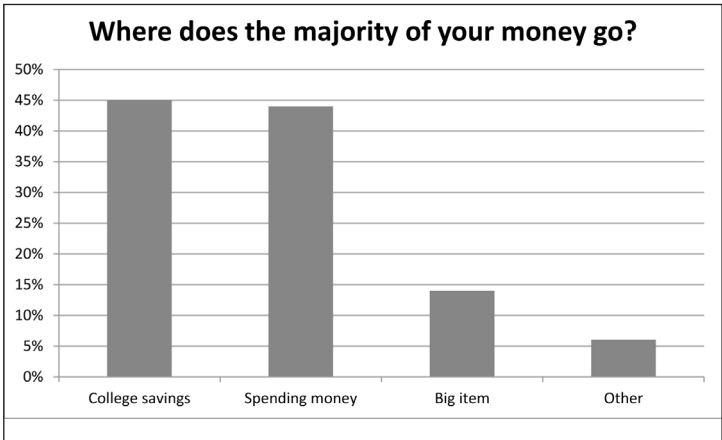
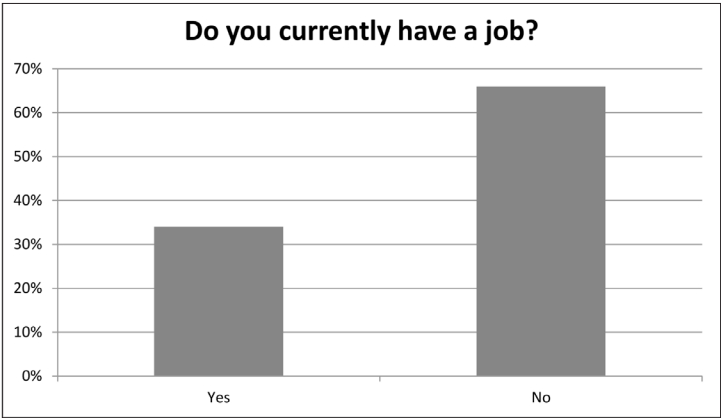
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Older siblings embrace role as confirmation sponsors

Cheyenne Chontos
Faith Editor

This time of year is exciting in particular for those who are being officially welcomed into the Church through the sacrament of confirmation. Several of these young Catholics have chosen to go with an older sibling as their confirmation sponsor.

One of these young Catholics who chose an older sibling

was sophomore Sean Downey. "Over the past year and a half [my brother] has become a big inspiration in my faith," said Downey.

Senior Joseph Sulaiman was also chosen by his younger brother, Michael, to be a confirmation sponsor. "I'm most looking forward to helping Michael grow in the faith," said J. Sulaiman.

Some wonder if high school students are the best option for being confirmation sponsors.

Both Sulaiman and Downey said that it varies from person to person but working with their siblings ended up being the best option for them.

St. Mary parish religious educator Teresa Townsend confirmed that an older sibling can work as long as they are an ongoing presence in the candidate's life to help when questions or struggles arise.

Valentine's day more than just cards, candy

Myla Brown
Activities Editor

Valentine's Day is recognized by people as a day to exchange hearts, cards and candy but people should remember that St. Valentine gave his life for his faith and belief that couples had a right to get married.

"Even though people go wild on Valentine's Day, the person who represents the day is not

very well known," said Sr. Kathryn Easley. "He was an important figure in our Church and when he died on Feb. 14, it became recognized as St. Valentine's Day."

St. Valentine defied Roman Emperor Claudius II's objections because married men couldn't serve in the army. The emperor had him put in jail and commanded his execution.

In prison, St. Valentine befriended the jailer's young daughter.

ter.

Prior to his execution, he sent her a note that said be faithful to God and signed it 'from your Valentine.'

"He lived valiantly for the church and served a great purpose that still lives on today," said Jonathan Konz campus minister. "Though people do not know of him as much today, his purpose was for love."

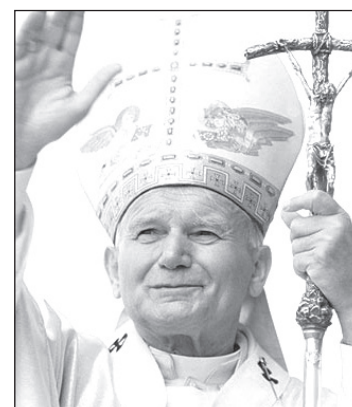
Pope John Paul II to be canonized by Church in April

Kayler Nelson
Editor-in-Chief

The Catholic Church will welcome another saint into the Kingdom of Heaven on April 27, 2014. Pope John Paul II, also known as JPII, hailed from Poland and will be canonized by the Church alongside Pope Blessed John XIII.

"[John Paul II] became a very positive and visible leader of the Church. He taught us to 'be not afraid,'" said Jonathan Konz, campus minister. "He taught us never to give in to life's adversities with his own battle with Parkinson's disease. His disease also allowed him to teach us humility."

Along with his papacy of over two decades, John Paul II was also a seasoned writer, well traveled, helped promote the fall



Blessed Pope John Paul II

of communism, and canonized over 480 saints. "JPII's canonization gives the Church another saint to emulate," said Konz. "All of the saints are excellent examples of how we can live a life of courageous holiness."

Approximately one million people are expected to attend the canonization ceremony.

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Students share talents through photos

Members work to build skills, have fun with photography

Kayler Nelson
Editor In-Chief

O'Gorman is now providing students with another outlet for their creative interests through photography club.

"It's important for students to be able to express themselves in other ways," said club adviser Patrick Frankman. "It serves as an additional avenue for student expression and for students to socialize with others."

In addition to appealing to students who cannot fit photography classes into their daily schedule, photography club gives young artists the chance to share ideas and practice their skill set.

"Exposure to a different art form provides life skills such as documenting friends, family, and life events," said Frankman. Students of all grades are given the opportunity to explore their interest in photography and learn new things along the way.

"A new member of the club can expect to improve their skills and have fun with friends in a creative environment," said senior photography club member Paul Schoppert.

A typical photography club meeting consists of artistic projects, taking pictures, and using editing software to maximize an image's full artistic potential.

"I hope that photography club continues to be an outlet where students can express themselves," said Schoppert.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The photo is one of many that students have taken as part of photography club. The club offers students the opportunity to learn more about photography if they are unable to take a photography course.

Clock rewinds to 'Gatsby' era as formal set for February 16

Carolyn Frederick
Entertainment Co-Editor

While last year was the first year for formal at the convention center, this year will be the last.

"Although this will be the last year for formal at the convention center, cost is not the issue," said formal coordinator Doug Basche. "The convention center is not available in 2015 or 2016."

Winter Formal will take place on Sunday, Feb. 16.

The ticket cost again will be \$15 for one and \$25 for two. Members of Student Council however will receive free tickets.

O'Gorman student council invests a great deal into the dance. Not including the cost of the space, over \$1,000 is spent on decorations and a DJ.

"This is the only fundraiser student council does. We are self-sufficient and get no funding from the school," said Basche.

The theme this year is, "Gatsby" attendees of formal are encouraged to wear suits and dresses similar to those worn at Gatsby's grand parties.

Choir alumni unite as milestone reached with tenth Capers

Justin Kautz
Staff Writer

The O'Gorman Concert Choir hit the stage for the tenth annual Capers dinner and variety show on Monday, Jan. 27.

It being the tenth anniversary of the event, this year's Capers was dubbed "A Decade of Song." The event specially featured a group of 35 O'Gorman Concert Choir alumni alongside the current Concert Choir members.

"Members from nine of the last ten years were represented in the show," said Mrs. Cathleen Britton, head of the O'Gorman Choral Department. "Thirty-five is a strong showing."

The alumni performed for the over 500-person crowd, but they were certainly not the only performers. Also featured were the vocal solos, small and large group numbers and skits typical of Capers in years past.

"The theme this year was awesome," said senior Meghan Kunkel. "It was so cool seeing all the alumni back to perform again."

Lucky for many, Capers offers a meal as complement to the entertainment. Every year attendees eat and enjoy the performances, and this year was no exception.

In her final year as director of the O'Gorman choir, Britton had high hopes for the tenth anniversary Capers.

When asked prior to the event what her hopes were, Britton responded, "I hope it is the best Capers yet."

Few are in the position to determine whether or not it was the best Capers yet, but there is little doubt that the performance let Britton down.

"We tried to make Mrs. Britton's last Capers a memorable one," said Kunkel.

HOSA wins iPad

Myla Brown
Activities Editor

Students walking through the halls of Sioux Falls O'Gorman may notice big beaming smiles; chances are good they belong to a Health Occupational Student Association (HOSA) member. The HOSA Club recently entered a national competition, took first place and won a mini iPad.

"It was a nationwide HOSA event and there wasn't anything to lose by entering," said Nicole Clemen, HOSA member. "We took a picture with the HOSA sign, submitted it and won the mini iPad. We didn't think about it, and we were notified on Jan. 7 that we won."

"It was exciting because it was for a good cause promoting oral hygiene," said Clemen. "I love HOSA because I want to go into the medical career field. HOSA gives me an opportunity to work with

cadavers and experience different medical fields and make the best choice for me."

The members of the O'Gorman and Greater Sioux Falls HOSA Chapter in Sioux Falls, S.D. are looking forward to joining 'America's Tooth Fairy Smile Drive.'

They are scheduled to visit The Banquet on Feb. 24 and March 3. At that time, they will present America's Tooth Fairy lessons on how to brush and floss correctly and distribute the donations collected in the month of February.

"The Banquet, which provides food and fellowship to families that are in need, is looking forward to our chapter visits and the opportunity for us to reach out to the youth that attend," said Ms. Caitlin Werner, HOSA adviser. "The Boys and Girls Club of the Sioux Empire was very appreciative of us contacting them, since one of their strong needs at this time is oral health education."

HOSA is a national student organization endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education and the Health Science Education Division of ACTE.

HOSA's two-fold mission is to promote career opportunities in the health care industry and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people.

HOSA's goal is to encourage all health occupations instructors and students to join and be actively involved in the HSE-HOSA Partnership.

HOSA is a powerful instructional tool that works best when it is integrated into the HSE curriculum and classroom.

The rapidly changing health care system needs dedicated workers who, in addition to their technical skills, are people-oriented and capable of playing a leadership or followership role as a member of a health care team.

Student finds place through arts

Senior Carrell says involvement key in high school

Cheyenne Chontos
Faith Editor

In a school bursting with intelligent, talented, and involved students it can be difficult to distinguish one's self from the crowd.

Yet senior James Carrell undoubtedly stands out with his cheerful personality and involvement in numerous school activities.

Oral interpretation, concert choir, chamber choir, show choir, theater, and peer support group make up the bulk of Carrell's activities.

He is also the head student director of the One Act play this semester and was an emcee for the O'Gorman variety show earlier this year.

While Carrell enjoys all of the groups he's involved in, he has a true passion for show choir. "It

was the first big activity I joined in high school," said Carrell. "Show choir was my first real step into high school. It's been my rock."

It's not surprising that Carrell's biggest piece of advice to underclassmen is to get involved. He stresses the importance of finding friends through the different activities that O'Gorman offers.

"It changes your life," said Carrell. "Try everything. The best part of being in the O'Gorman family is that you can always find people to relate to and once you get involved it's easy to find your place. Just find what you're good at."

However, Carrell does admit that time management can get to be a problem after becoming involved in so many projects. "At first I didn't know how to say no," said Carrell. "That was



James Carrell

probably the toughest thing I've had to learn how to do."

But he adds that it has definitely been worth the time commitment.

"Being in so many activities is so rewarding because I've made so many great friends through the activities I'm in," said Carrell.

"Show choir was my first real step into high school. It's been my rock."

- James Carrell

"All of my closest friends are in theater and choir with me."

Carrell's free time is no less rigorous as he practices singing and works various theater activities, whether that's student director work or memorizing lines.

Carrell reports that he's still looking forward to several parts of his senior year, including the musical. "It's one of my favorite activities," said Carrell. "I look forward to it every year."

He said that he is also looking forward to continuing with show choir as a senior. Carrell is hoping to stick with it and several of

his other activities throughout college.

"I'm looking forward to collegiate level music and theater," said Carrell. "O'Gorman does those things so well but I'm looking forward to moving on to the next level."

As for college, Carrell is currently looking at either going to the University of South Dakota for a double major in voice performance and music education or the American Musical and Dramatic Academy for a major in musical theater.

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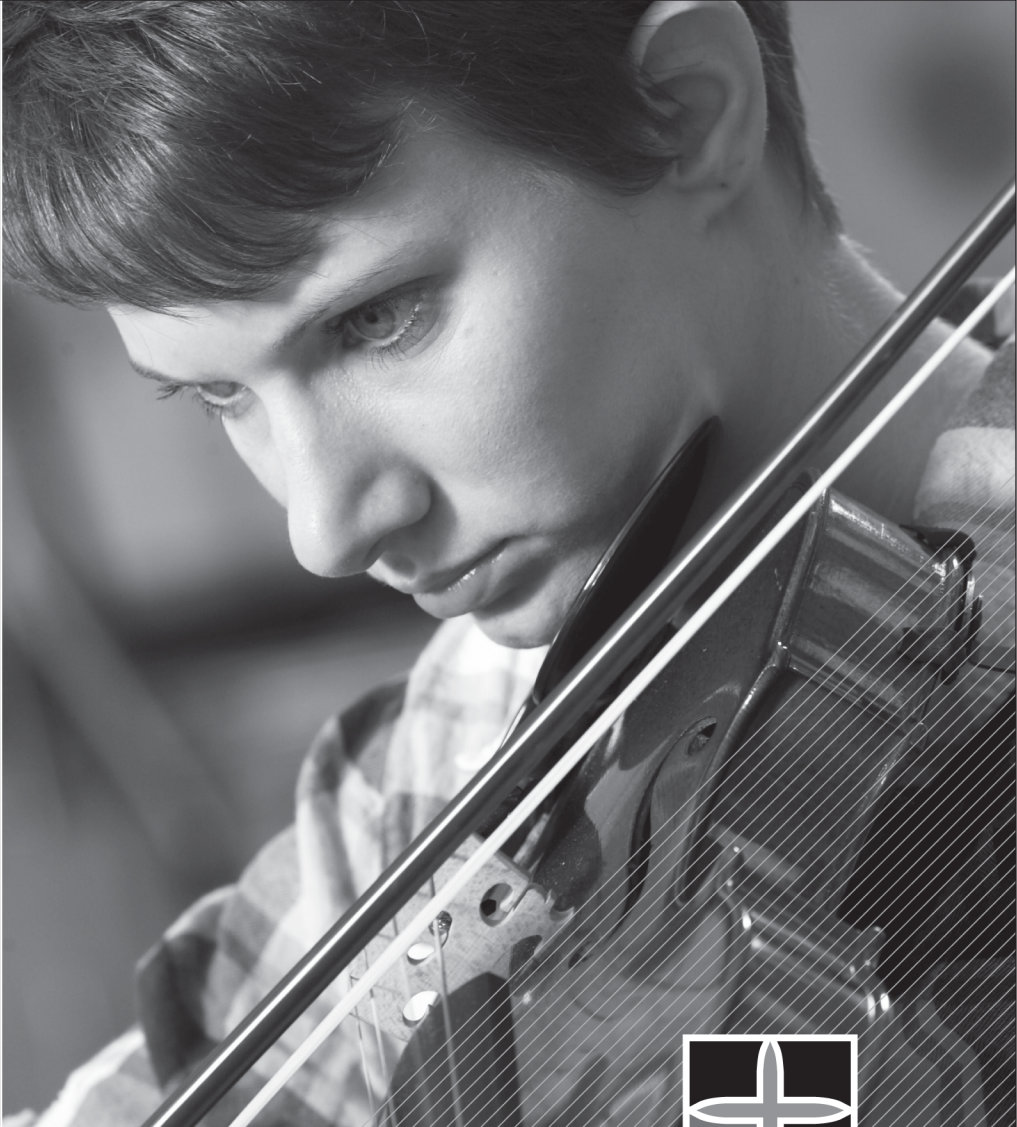
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Junior Elliott helps ignite Knights

Kate Brycheeva
Entertainment Co- Editor

The basketball court is where junior Braxton Elliott found his passion. Starting to play basketball as a child, he now is one of the top players in the state, averaging 18.2 points and 4.1 rebounds per game.

Family plays a big role in Elliott's basketball career. His parents always support him, and his sister Adriana is the biggest admirer of her big brother. "She's always the first one to run up after the game and give me a hug," said Elliott.

Success comes with hard work and believing in oneself, even after the failures, says Elliott. He still remembers not making state sophomore year, but it only served as a motivation.

"We got better over summer so we can make state this year."

"Braxton is a great player, but most of all he is a great teammate," said senior Connor Nagel. "He is always looking to find the open guy and is always picking his teammates up. He draws a lot of attention because of how good he is and how he can break people down off the dribble and that allows the rest of us to get open shots and make the plays we do," said Nagel.

Many elements contributed to Elliott's successful basketball career, but looking back at it he gave one piece of advice: "Don't give up on your dreams. Hard work pays off as long as you stunt a little bit."

The high school gym is just the beginning. Besides trying to make it to the state level, Elliot

knows that basketball is something that he'll stay with. He later hopes to play in college.

"My hopes for him in the near future are for him to win the State AA Basketball Tournament," said Derek Robey, O'Gorman's head basketball coach. "I also think if he continues to work hard and progress as a player, Braxton would be the type of athlete or individual that would have an opportunity to play at the next level."

Basketball is not just a sport for Elliott. He is thankful for all the individuals who helped him along the way. "Coaches teach us many life lessons and discipline," said Elliott.

"We are certainly glad he is wearing the blue and the white," said Robey.



KNIGHT SCROLL

Junior Braxton Elliott dribbles the ball upcourt against a Rapid City Stevens defender. Elliott has been a key part in the Knights' 2013-2014 campaign.

Lady Knights topple unbeaten Mitchell

Tough city schedule remains

Tommy Entwistle
Sports Co-Editor

The Lady Knights started the season on a roll after finishing last season seventh in the state tournament. The Lady Knights won their first five games and are currently ranked third in the state with a record of 8-4.

After dropping a tough game at Harrisburg in the seventh game of the season, the Lady Knights split their west river road trip. On the first day of the trip they cruised to a 55-42 win over Rapid City Central. The following afternoon, the Lady Knights lost a late lead and fell at Rapid City Stevens 54-51.

On Jan. 18, in a crowded O'Gorman gym, the Lady Knights got their signature win as they became the only team to knock off the second ranked Mitchell Kernels, 55-50.

Junior Jess Mieras led the way with 16 points along with 13 rebounds. "We proved to ourselves that we can beat anyone in the state when we come together and play as a team," said Mieras, who has verbally committed to play for SDSU.

On Jan. 24, in their second



KNIGHT SCROLL

Senior Paige Leafstedt drives against her Rapid City Stevens opponent. The Lady Knights were edged by Stevens 47-46.

meeting with the Stevens Raiders, the Lady Knights failed to avenge their earlier loss and fell in a 47-46 heartbreaker at the O'Gorman gym. The Lady Knights outscored Stevens 15-6 in the fourth quarter but fell short. They were led by Mieras with 12 points and five steals, and point guard Dalee Stene contributed 10 points and five assists.

The Lady Knights showed their resilience the following afternoon by thrashing Rapid City

Central 63-44. Mieras scored 12 points in the second half to finish with a game-high 14. Stene added 12 points and Rachel Townsend scored 11 on the strength of three bombs from beyond the arc. Katie Messler contributed five rebounds and five assists.

"As a team we are working on playing hard for 32 minutes every game and getting better each day," said Stene. "We are trying to take one game at a time as we work towards the postseason."

The Lady Knights traveled to play Sioux City East on Jan. 28, and then had four straight home games including a date with top-ranked and undefeated Washington on Feb. 7.

"Pushing the ball and running in transition will be key in making a run at a state title," said senior forward Peyton Bjorkman.

The Lady Knights begin district play on March 3 with the state tournament at Frost Arena in Brookings March 13-15.

Bowlers capitalize against tough foes

Carolyn Frederick
Entertainment Co-Editor

Since the start of the season in November, the Knights bowling team has had great success with a record of 6-1.

They have time to improve twice every week, right after school on Mondays and Thursdays at Empire bowl for team practice. They usually always play their matches at Empire Bowl as well.

They have faced Yankton, Lincoln, Washington, Vermillion, Harrisburg, West Central and Brookings. Their only lost was against Harrisburg.

"Harrisburg has always been one of our toughest competitors," said senior Austin Serck. "We just individually did not play our best."

Both varsity and junior varsity play three sets each and combine their scores and compare them to the other team's six sets for the winner.

"We shouldn't be beaten and we should win the state tournament," said senior Nole Harrington. "We have the talent. The only ones who can beat us is ourselves."

Knights rebound after rough year

Samantha Lenz
Opinion Editor

In the games so far this season the O'Gorman Knights have battled their way to a 6-5 record.

"So far the season is going well," said coach Derek Robey. "Certainly there are games in which we wish we could have played better at times, yet overall we are basically right where I thought we might be coming into the season."

In mid-December the Knights were able to rise above the Brandon Valley Lynx with a 61-58 win.

The Knights returned to action to face their south side opponent, the Lincoln Patriots. During this game the Knights struggled, falling by a score of 50-41.

"They really surprised us by playing zone," said junior point guard Braxton Elliott. "We were expecting them to play man to man all week during practice so they forced us to take a lot of perimeter shots which got us out of our comfort zone."

Next the Knights had an out of town game against the Watertown Arrows and came away with a 63-50 win.

"This was a good win," said senior forward Spencer Hopkins. "It feels good to beat them after last season's ending loss."

At the Mike Miller Classic in the Corn Palace the Knights were able to pull out a 66-53 victory over Minneapolis Patrick Henry. During this game, O'Gorman put four players in double figures including senior shooting guard Connor Nagel and junior forward Davis Cowan who scored 13 points apiece. At halftime the Knights were ahead by seven points benefitting from a large rebound advantage.

"I think the strength is our work ethic and having very coachable young men," said Robey. "They seem to get along well with each other and seem to know each other's strength."

During their next game of the tournament, the Knights beat the host Mitchell Kernals by a final score of 69-41. Cowan and sophomore forward Jack Peery had 13 and 10 points.

After this pair of wins, the Knights faced St. Paul Central Minutemen at the Sanford Pentagon. During this game, O'Gorman was cold offensively only shooting 28 percent from the field ultimately ending in a 53-39 loss. Despite the loss the Knights were able to come together and erase a 19 point deficit reducing it down to eight.

"In the end, we really rallied around each other and locked down on defense," said Cowan.

Coming off a tough loss the Knights traveled out west to face opponent Rapid City Central. O'Gorman came away with a 72-57 win. During this game, Elliott finished with 26 points, scoring six consecutive points during the fourth quarter, squashing the idea of a Cobbler comeback.

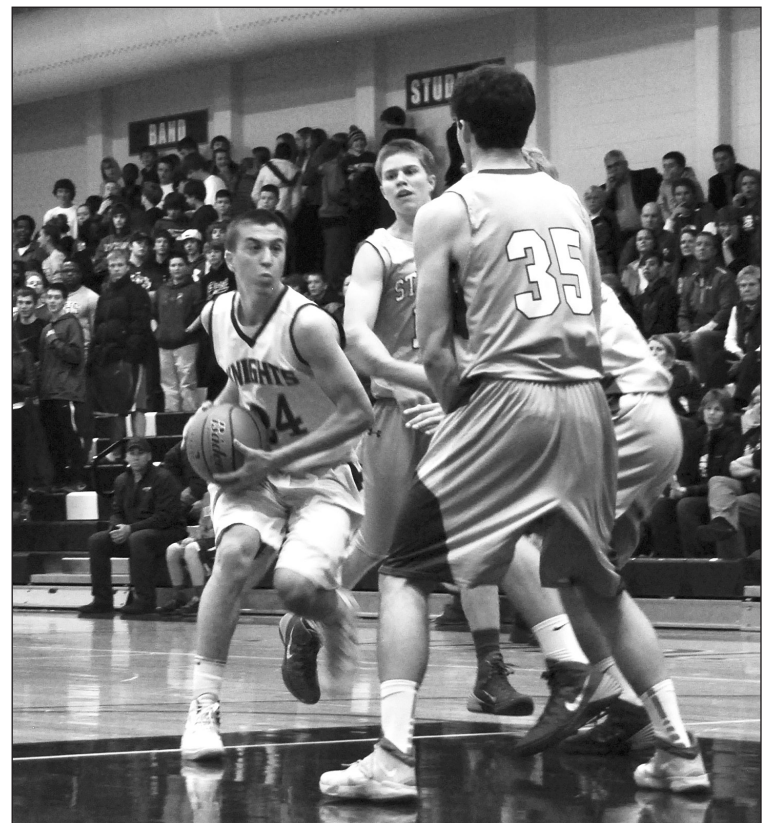
The next day, the Knights faced the Rapid City Stevens Raiders. During this game the Knights struggled defensively giving up 83 points, although Nagel led the team offensively with 30 points. Due to this, the Knights fell 83-72.

"If we don't find a way to improve this team on the defensive end, we will be average at best. We can't just outscore people," said Robey.

As their season continued O'Gorman faced the Washington Warriors. Unfortunately the Knights were not able to overcome Washington's inside game losing 51-42. Nagel led the Knights with 15 points.

With a week's worth of practice under their belt, the Knights came into their next game against the Rapid City Stevens Raiders with a lot of preparation. O'Gorman finished with a 52-51 win. During this game, Cowan contributed 27 points.

"It was a hard fought game, but when it came down to it our



KNIGHT SCROLL

Senior Connor Nagel takes the ball inside against Rapid City Stevens defenders. The Knights edged the Raiders 52-51 in front of a packed O'Gorman gymnasium.

guys were the ones making the plays," said Nagel.

O'Gorman was unable to keep the momentum from the night before as the Knights fell 62-55 to the Cobblers from Central.

As the final months of the season come to a close the Knights

look to improve their game by breaking down defensive concepts.

"In order to have success this season, we have to continue to believe in each other, the team, and the system," said Robey. "We can't start doubting the process."

Wrestlers push toward state

State tournament to be held in Rapid City

Sam Breske
Staff Writer

As the state tournament approaches, the O'Gorman wrestling team continues to improve.

"Wrestling is an individual sport with a team focus," said head coach Jeff Gordon. "We can base our success on how many duels we've won, on how many place winners we get at each tournament, or by the progress made over the course of the season."

Many members of the team have succeeded in all of those categories. Senior and captain Sam Weisensee recently reached the milestone of winning his 20th match. Weisensee is closely trailed by fellow senior, Nahom Abebe, junior Ryan O'Connell and junior Micah Cummings.

"It's always nice when the ju-

niors and seniors do well," said Gordon. "We are a little short on upperclassmen this season, but the ones we have are doing a great job as leaders."

The state tournament is on Feb. 28 and March 1 in Rapid City. Wrestlers from O'Gorman are eagerly preparing to compete.

"We've all worked incredibly hard all season," said Weisensee. "Hopefully our hard work pays off at the end of February and we can represent O'Gorman at the state tournament."

Before the state tournament, competitors have to qualify by succeeding at the regional tournament. The regional tournament will be held on Feb. 22 in Watertown.

With the season drawing to a close, none of the wrestlers are showing any sign of slowing down.



CHEYENNE CHONTOS / KNIGHT SCROLL

Junior Ryan O'Connell wrestles against his Roosevelt opponent. State wrestling is set for Feb. 28-March 1 in Rapid City.

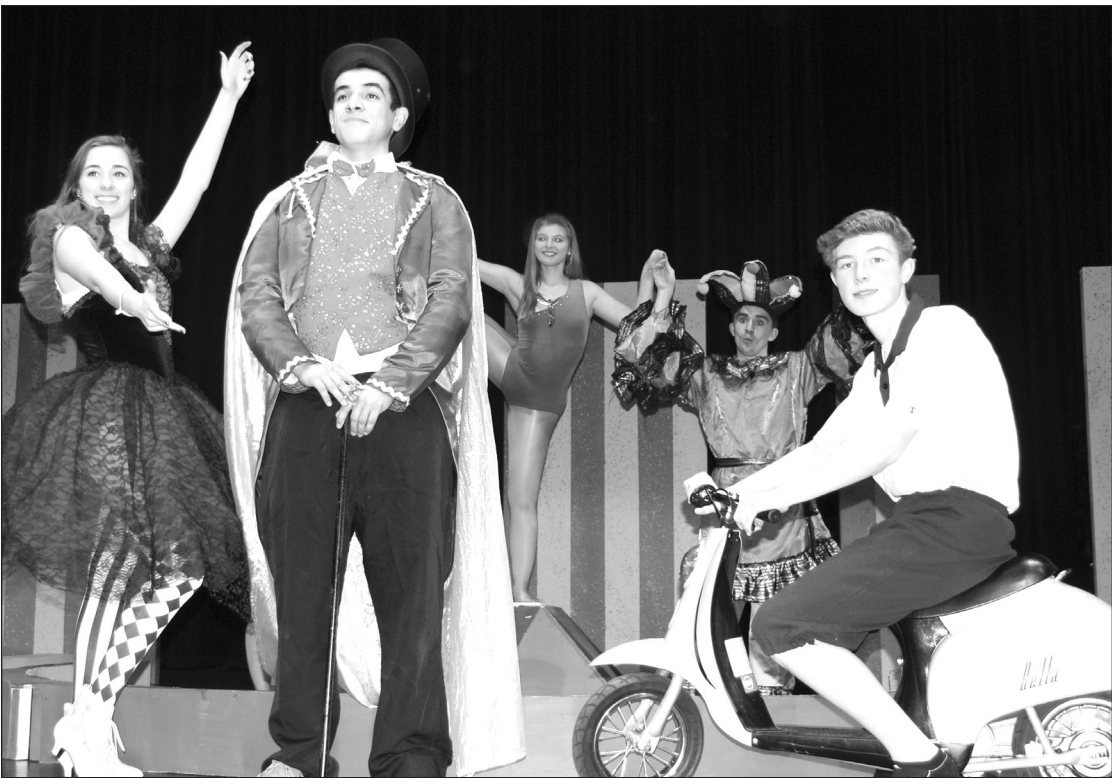
Show examines final day of terminal patient

Kate Brycheeva
Entertainment Co-Editor

With the second semester under way, the drama department is already busy getting ready to give their first performance of the year – the one act play. It is a competitive play that competes at the South Dakota One Act Play Festival. This year it is an adaptation of Kirt Shineman's drama called *Allie Oops' Last Fantastic Day*. It is about a woman who finds out she has terminal cancer. She doesn't have much time left so she sets out to make her last day fantastic. Along with that, her past unfolds in front of the audience. "Each year we try to bring something new to the festival and we love a challenge," said director Teresa Fester. "This show was originally a one woman show but the author has given us special permission to adapt it to an ensemble. He actually loved the idea and was incredibly supportive."

The cast size is 24 people, fea-

turing Clara Bentz, Danny Fritz, Meghan Kunkel, Curtis Nelson, Luke Miller, Matt Billion and Ben Gellerman in the main roles. "It tells a beautiful story in a very unique and abstract way," said Bentz, who plays Sue, the main character. "With Fester's direction and the amazing cast, this show is sure to make an impact at state. The cast is so creative; everyone knew it was a good group the moment the list went up. Fester really pushes us, and it's a ton of pressure, but in the end, one act is always fantastic." Many people came together to enjoy the result of theater department's hard work at Lorang Theatre on Feb. 4, along with watching them perform at the state festival at Brandon Valley High School on Feb. 7. "Anyone who has known someone with cancer will appreciate the character's strength and determination to make her last day fantastic," said Fester.



KATE BRYCHEEVA / KNIGHT SCROLL
Taylor Billion, Sam Maxwell, Jessie Sadlon, Christian Heisler, and Quinn Shoenfelder preform in the one act *Allie Oops' Last Fantastic Day*. The play made its debut Tuesday, Feb. 4 at 7:00 pm.

Oscar race heats up as awards season underway



FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES / PRESS PHOTO
Chiwetel Ejiofor (right) stars in *12 Years a Slave*. The films chronicles the time of Solomon Northup as a slave in the south. The film is also nominated for best picture as well as best director for Steve McQueen.

Ben Rogers
Sports Co- Editor

For the 86th time the best actors, actresses, and producers will all converge together for one night to celebrate the best of each at the Academy Awards on March 2. The Best Actor nominees include Christian Bale, Bruce Dern, Leonardo DiCaprio, Chiwetel Ejiofor and Matthew McConaughey.

"I really think DiCaprio deserves to win an Oscar. Any movie he is in instantly better," said senior Max Boyum. "He is such a respected actor." The nominees for Best Actress include Amy Adams, Cate Blanchett, Sandra Bullock, Judi Dench and Meryl Streep. The coup de grâce of the Oscars however is the award going to the best film of the year. The winner of this year will join the likes of *Argo*, *The Artist* and *The*

King's Speech, the past three Best Picture winners. Films up for Best Picture this year include *12 Years a Slave*, *American Hustle*, *Captain Phillips*, *Dallas Buyers Club*, *Gravity*, *Her*, *Nebraska*, *Philomena* and *The Wolf of Wall Street*. "This year's slate of best pictures is diverse, which is good to see," said senior Chris Sharpe, "It's not as good as previous years but I'm a classic movie guy."

Who Will Win?

The *Knight Scroll* picks the winners:

- Best Picture: *12 Years a Slave*
- Best Director: Alfonso Cuaron, *Gravity*
- Best Actress: Cate Blanchett, *Blue Jasmine*
- Best Actor: Matthew McConaughey, *Dallas Buyers Club*
- Best Supporting Actress: Lupita Nyong'o, *12 Years a Slave*
- Best Supporting Actor: Jared Leto, *Dallas Buyers Club*
- Best Original Screenplay: *Her*
- Best Adapted Screenplay: *Before Midnight*
- Best Animated Feature Film: *Frozen*
- Best Cinematography: Emmanuel Lubezki, *Gravity*
- Best Costume Design: Catherine Martin, *The Great Gatsby*
- Best Film Editing: Joe Walker, *12 Years a Slave*
- Best Music: Alexandre Desplat, *Philomena*
- Best Makeup and Hairstyling: *Bad Grandpa*
- Best Visual Effects: *Gravity*
- Best Production Design: *The Great Gatsby*
- Best Original Song: "The Moon Song" from *Her*
- Best Sound Editing: *Lone Survivor*

Caught
in
the
[One]
Act



KATE BRYCHEEVA / KNIGHT SCROLL

Jessie Sadlon, Quinn Schoenfelder, Christian Heisler and Cody Bloomer perform *Allie Oops’ Last Fantastic Day* in the Lorang Theatre.



KATE BRYCHEEVA / KNIGHT SCROLL

Taylor Billion and Sam Maxwell perform in the one act play.



KATE BRYCHEEVA / KNIGHT SCROLL

Ben Gellerman, Cassidy Schoenhard, Clara Bentz and Christian Heisler act in the play *Allie Oops’ Last Fantastic Day*.

Photo Survey

“Which celebrity would you take to formal?”



“Jesus, because when in doubt take Jesus.”

- Audra Garrigan



“Ariana Grande, because I love the way she makes me feel.”

- Teddy Schwebach



“Juan Pablo, because I want him to give me the final rose.”

- Ivanca Thompson



“Kate Upton, because she seems like a nice person.”

- Wes Asfora

Contest shows camaraderie

Staff Editorial

Leave it to O’Gorman. Once again the O’Gorman community got together to accomplish a goal. And boy did it pay off.

On Nov. 27 – as students were eagerly preparing for a long Thanksgiving break – principal Kyle Groos made a surprise announcement: O’Gorman had just won \$25,000 as part of the State Farm Celebrate My Drive campaign.

Both students and staff were surprised at the announcement. It was an impressive feat as the school brought together students, staff, parents, and other caring supporters to vote for O’Gorman in the contest.

In other schools, this accomplishment would be a phenomenon akin to being

struck by lightning. But at O’Gorman, we have become used to events like this happening. Why? Because O’Gorman has a never say quit attitude.

In everything we do, we find a way to succeed and push forward.

From academics to athletics to the arts, O’Gorman is defined by pursuing excellence. And just as we came together to accomplish the Celebrate My Drive campaign, so too do we come together in other ways.

But we can’t stop. We can’t simply be satisfied with our accomplishments. We have to continue to move forward and strive to better our school – and ourselves – each and every day.

At times we take this



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Students react after the balloon drop during the Celebrate My Drive reveal. O’Gorman won \$25,000 in the contest.

school for granted, but at the end of the day, the four years we spend here are some of the most formative of our lives.

As we continue on

through this school year, our challenge to you is to continue striving for excellence.

Don’t be satisfied with the status quo; instead

push yourselves to be better. Moreover, push others to better themselves. It’s when we work together that we do our best.

Have an opinion? We’d like to hear it!

Submit a letter to the editor today!



Be Great. Start Here.

GET TO KNOW STATE

JUNIOR DAY

Saturday, February 8, 2014 at SDSU

Jackrabbit Takeout for OGHS

Wednesday, February 5 | 5:00–7:00 pm
Old Chicago | 4301 West 41st Street

JACKRABBIT PREVIEW

Fridays at SDSU

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Admissions Office | Box 2201 | Brookings, SD | 57007-0649

1-800-952-3541 (toll-free) or (605) 688-4121 | Fax: (605) 688-6891

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